

**FLATHEAD CITY/COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
ZOOM/PHONE  
EARL BENNETT BUILDING  
1035 1ST AVENUE WEST  
KALISPELL, MONTANA  
VIDEO:**

| Members Present  | Other Attendees   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Roger Noble<br>Pamela Homlquist<br>Don Barnhart<br>Pete Heyboer, MD<br>Rod Kuntz<br>Jessica Malberg-Fital,DVM.MSPH,DACVR- Zoom<br>Ardis Larsen<br>Ronalee Skees - Zoom | Jennifer Rankosky<br>Kilani Klette<br>Jenelle Grau<br>Nicole Parker<br>Cliff Bennett<br>Jillian Boll<br>Fred Woelkers | Maci Doty<br>Taylor Hunt<br>David Nixon<br>Jonner Griffin<br>Karen Weaver<br>Lisa Dennison<br>Brock Boll |

**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Roger Noble called the meeting to order at (1:00pm) Started at (0:00:00)

**2. Attendance**

Roll Call. Started at (0:00:01)

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Don Barnhart makes a motion to approve, Rod Kuntz seconds the motion. (Started at 0:00:23)

**Motion passes**

**4. Citizen Comment**

**Written Citizen Comment:**

No Written Citizen Comment

**Verbal Citizen Comment:**

No Verbal Citizen Comment

**5. Approval of Meeting Minutes for July 21st, 2022**

Ardis Larsen makes a motion to approve, Rod Kuntz seconds the motion. (Started at 0:01:52)

**Motion passes**

**6. Reifers Variance Request ~ Action Item**

- Fred Woelkers discussed how that groundwater was higher than the 40-inch minimum requirement. (Started at 0:02:27)
- Fred Woelkers discussed a secondary Variance to elevate the sand mound more than 12% slope. (Started at 0:03:07)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that it's with the recommendation of the Health Department that the Variances get approved. (Started at 0:03:57)
- Roger Noble discussed how the reviewed this application in detail. It was unanimous from the Heath Department Sub-Committee to approve both Variances. (Started at 0:04:04)
- Ardis Larsen discussed level 2 protection on it as well. (Started at 0:05:00)

- Pete Heyboer asked if the slope could be explained. (Started at 0:05:26)
- Fred Woelkers discussed the slope maximum and how this would actually give more treatment with the sand mound and is a positive thing. (Started at 0:05:37)
- Pete Heyboer asked if the only issue was the slope. (Started at 0:07:05)
- Fred Woelkers and Roger Noble discussed that it wasn't the only issue. Discussed the lot being uniform and the diagram. (Started at 0:07:13)
- Rod Kuntz asked if it was about physical safety or treatment safety. (Started at 0:08:56)
- Fred Woelkers discussed that it is actual physical safety as the work is on a slope. (Started at 0:09:07)
- Roger Noble asked for a motion to approve both Variances. Ardis Larsen makes a motion to approve, Pete Heyboer seconds the motion. **Motion passes** (Started at 0:09:48)

## 7. Departmental Reports

### Animal Shelter

- Cliff Bennett discussed two major challenges. He discussed a cat hoarding problem in the city of Whitefish and an issue with staffing in the shelter. There are eight staff members and three open positions. (Started at 0:11:25)

### Community Health

- Karen Weaver discussed that Home Visiting is finally fully staffed. (Started at 0:15:01)
- Karen Weaver discussed the caseloads for Home Visiting. They also no longer have a waitlist for families being fully staffed. (Started at 0:15:38)
- Karen Weaver discussed that referrals were lower for Home Visiting in August. (Started at 0:16:33)
- Karen Weaver discussed group connection events they put on to connect families. (Started at 0:18:47)
- Karen Weaver discussed well-child checks, successes, and challenges. (Started at 0:19:50)
- Jillian Boll discussed the new Covid vaccine and that it is offered at the covid clinic every Tuesday in Community Health. (Started at 0:24:31)
- Jillian Boll discussed the Annual flu clinic coming up October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Flathead County Fairgrounds. (Started at 0:25:18)
- Jillian Boll discussed the PCR antigen travel testing they have been doing in the Community Health clinic. (Started at 0:25:45)
- Pete Heyboer asked if there has been a demand for the updated Covid Vaccine. (Started at 0:26:23)
- Jillian Boll discussed that they have online scheduling for the vaccine or staff can make the appointments as well. Almost fully booked for the coming Tuesday. They will probably run out of Moderna next week and they are not sure when more will be coming in. (Started at 0:26:32)

### Population Health

- Lisa Dennison discussed that they are now fully staffed in Communicable Disease, and she introduced the new staff members. (Started at 0:27:48)
- Lisa Dennison discussed that they had the first Rabies positive bat. (Started at 0:28:43)
- Roger Noble asked if they were seeing many cases. (Started at 0:29:06)

- Lisa Dennison discussed that it's the first positive rabies for bats this year, they have not seen any in domesticated animals. (Started at 0:29:09)
- Rod Kuntz asked about the Mercury poisonings. (Started at 0:29:28)
- Lisa Dennison discussed that they were unrelated cases. One was from consuming fish, and they are still investigating the other one. (Started at 0:29:32)
- Pete Heyboer discussed that Montana has no confirmed cases of Lyme disease. (Started at 0:30:12)
- Jerramy Dear-Ruel discussed the Flathead County Behavioral Health Collaborative and how it came about. (Started at 0:30:59)
- Jerramy Dear-Ruel discussed the Mobile Crisis Response Team, and how they respond to the community. (Started at 0:32:54)
- Jerramy Dear-Ruel discussed the Suicide Task force and other programs he is involved with. (Started at 0:34:12)
- Don Barnhart asked when they go out on an intervention, do these individuals get the opportunity to make an appointment with a Healthcare professional? (Started at 0:36:36)
- Jerramy Dear-Ruel discussed that at the time the response team goes out there will be a Care Coordinator who will be there to help them get the resources they need. (Started at 0:36:52)

### **Family Planning**

- Mandie Fleming discussed how patient visit numbers are holding steady. (Started at 0:37:33)
- Mandie Fleming discussed that they will be launching a new service in October where they will start dispensing PREP onsite in Family Planning. (Started at 0:37:46)
- Mandie Fleming discussed that on October 14<sup>th</sup> they will be hosting a community Narcan training. (Started at 0:38:40)
- Mandie Fleming discussed that Syringe exchange numbers are trending back and started a new policy that has increased their syringe exchange return rate. (Started at 0:39:06)
- Mandie Fleming discussed that they are now fully staffed and introduced Nathanael Micklos. (Started at 0:39:30)
- Pete Heyboer asked what policy difference or change was made to increase the return rate. (Started at 0:40:02)
- Mandie Fleming discussed that they started a point for point system where someone would bring in syringes to exchange for new syringes. (Started at 0:40:06)
- Nathanael Micklos discussed if someone brought in 100 used needles he would give them a 100 needles back. It encourages them to use clean needles (Started at 0:40:24)

### **Mosquito**

- Brock Boll introduced David Nixon as a full time Mosquito tech now. (Started at 0:41:34)
- Brock Boll discussed that the Mosquito season is now starting to dwindle down. (Started at 0:42:07)
- Brock Boll discussed that statewide there is 1 reported Equine case in Lewis and Clark County and 2 positive mosquito samples in Dawson and Lewis and Clark counties. (Started at 0:42:41)

- Brock Boll discussed the 2022 Mosquito season. 4,385 Inspections, 890 treatments, 1330 Acres treated, and total number of sites is 1,402. (Started at 0:43:16)
- Brock Boll discussed that David Nixon would be helping in Environmental Health in the offseason and that he would be busy cleaning up areas to make them accessible for next season. (Started 0:44:00)
- Brock Boll discussed that the drone situation is still under investigation. (Started at 0:44:29)

### **Environmental Health**

- Fred Woelkers discussed that they are busy with food inspections and public accommodations are slowing down. (Started at 0:45:06)
- Fred Woelkers discussed that they have a goal to get more school inspections done. (Started at 0:46:09)
- Fred Woelkers discussed that on the septic and land side they are closer to being fully staffed. (Started at 0:46:27)
- Fred Woelkers discussed that septic applications went down and then came back up in August. (Started at 0:47:17)
- Fred Woelkers discussed the Evergreen Water issue that occurred and the Sanitarians checking in with businesses. (Started at 0:48:19)
- Roger Noble discussed that 3 of the food violations are on the frequent flyer list. (Started at 0:48:58)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that they have a checklist they have to go through and also get put on a plan of compliance. (Started at 0:49:17)

### **Finance**

- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that the health fund is in good shape. (Started at 0:50:45)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that the AC chiller has been delivered and awaiting install. (Started at 0:51:05)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that they are finishing up with Home Health and should be out of that building by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Stuff is being donated and server will be moved over. (Started at 0:51:08)
- Pete Heyboer asked if patients were still receiving services. (Started at 0:52:45)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that they are not seeing any more and they stopped services July 28<sup>th</sup>. (Started at 0:52:47)
- Rod Kuntz asked about the deficit back in July. (Started at 0:53:35)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that we may still have a deficit for Home Health, but they are still collecting. (Started at 0:53:45)

### **Health Officers Report**

- Jennifer Rankosky discussed the transition that took place for the Co-Responder program. (Started at 0:54:16)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that they will have a Reaccreditation virtual site visit on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. (Started at 0:55:01)

- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that Flathead County has transitioned to their new website. (Started at 0:55:56)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed the Rabies positive bat and the press release sent out. (Started at 0:56:23)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed the difference between the Sharps program and the Syringe Exchange program. (Started at 0:56:49)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed the flu clinic taking place on October 5<sup>th</sup>. (Started at 0:58:37)
- Roger Noble asked about the Reaccreditation. (Started at 0:58:51)
- Jennifer Rankosky discussed that it is the Public Health Accreditation board. Its part of a national standard across the country. (Started at 0:58:53)

## 8. Committee Reports

### **Environmental Health Committee**

- Roger Noble discussed the Bio Solids program report they received from HDR as well as the 38 acres purchased for a treatment facility. (Started at 0:59:36)
- Roger Noble discussed the original closing date was March 31<sup>st</sup> and that has now been moved up to January 15<sup>th</sup>. (Started at 1:00:55)

## 9. Board Member Discussion

- Roger Noble thanked all the new employees for attending and welcomed them. (Started at 1:02:33)

## 10. Adjournment

Meeting ended at (1:02:51)

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Approved by Roger A. Noble, P.G.

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Date of Approval